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France. He devotes a part of his paper to a refutation of Mr. Williams' volume, "Made in Germany," and of a similar work by M. Schwob, published in France under the title of "Danger Allemand," with the view of showing that France has suffered a "Commercial Sedan." For the comparative tables contained in his article, M. Yves Guyot has gone to the best available authorities, namely, the official returns issued in the different countries; but some remarkable discrepancies may be observed between the returns of each country when compared with those of the others. The years referred to are not stated, but it may be taken for granted that they were the most recent at the time the paper was written, that is to say, 1895. For example, the English returns of imports from Germany are set down at a value of £26,900,000, while the German returns of the exports to England are given at £33,750,000. The English returns of exports to Germany are stated at £32,700,000, while the German returns acknowledge only a value of £26,815,000 of imports from England. Usually the estimates of the values of merchandise are higher in the importing country than in the exporting one, as freight and insurance have to be added to the cost; but in the case of England and Germany the same merchandise is returned at nearly 20 per cent less when imported than when previously exported. In the trade between England and other leading countries similar differences in the amounts are exhibited, but in the returns for France and the United States the balance is the other way, and may be explained, but in a measure only, by the freight and insurance. Thus the English returns estimate the imports from France at £47,470,583, and the exports to France at £20,324,908, while the French returns show exports to England amounting to only £40,096,000, and imports from England to £19,856,000. In the trade of England with the United States, English returns give £86,548,860 of imports from the United States, and £44,067,703 of exports. The American returns show £76,820,000 of exports to England, and £31,820,000 only of imports from England. Evidently conclusions on the balance of trade between two countries drawn from official statistics must be received with more than a grain of salt, as they depend on the returns of the country chosen for the factors of the comparison.

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE.

A compilation of statistics has been made by the United States Civil Service Commission showing the number of positions in both the classified and the unclassified parts of the Executive civil service on June 30, 1896, and showing in detail the number of employees in each of the several departments, offices, and commissions. The following is a summary of the statistics for the Executive branch:—

THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

Classified by compensation, the number of positions is as follows:

Class A, any amount less than \$720	19,744
Class B, \$720 to less than \$840	8,617
Class C, \$840 to less than \$900	1,666
Class D, \$900 to less than \$1,000	10,605
Class E, \$1,000 to less than \$1,200	18,179
Class 1, \$1,200 to less than \$1,400	6,770
Class 2, \$1,400 to less than \$1,600	4,701
Class 3, \$1,600 to less than \$1,800	1,563
Class 4, \$1,800 to less than \$2,000	1,570
Class 5, \$2,000 to less than \$2,500	1,131
Class 6, \$2,500 or more	510
Total classified by compensation	75,056
Examining surgeons for pensions	4,120
Presidential offices not confirmed by Senate	36
Total for examination	79,212
Classified, but excepted from examination:	
Private secretaries and confidential clerks	10
Cashiers in custom-houses	75
Cashiers in post-offices	22
Deputy collectors of customs	6
Assistant postmasters	570
Attorneys and assistant attorneys	98
Total excepted places	781
Positions now held by Indians in the Indian service	2,061
Total classified service	82,054
Total employment of labor, navy-yard registration	5,063
Total covered by civil service rules and regulations	87,117

THE UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE.

Excluded from classification under Rule III, section 8:

Clause (a), \$300 or under and partially employed	4,670
Clause (b), detailed for civil duty	53
Clause (c), employed in foreign country	3
Clause (d), quasi-naval or military, enlisted for term of years	844
Total excluded from classification	5,570
Presidential officers confirmed by Senate	4,815
Laborers or workmen below classification	8,854
Positions not yet classified:	
Miscellaneous	821
Government directors, Union Pacific Railroad	5
Clerks in first-class post-offices (not free delivery)	5
Clerks in second-class post-offices (not free delivery)	575
Clerks in third-class post-offices (not free delivery)	1,718
Clerks in fourth-class post-offices (not free delivery)	2,512
Fourth-class postmasters	66,725
Total not yet classified	72,361
Total unclassified service	91,600
Total classified service	82,343
Total employment of labor under Navy regulations	5,063
Total dealt with by United States Civil Service Commission	87,117
Total executive civil service	178,717

It will be seen that of the places still unclassified, more than two-thirds are the fourth-class postmasterships.